



considered less to have less severe impacts than one running along the course of the stream. Other relevant factors include the number of crossings, amount of traffic, roadway cross-section, and stream size and quality. As another example, a road widening is typically assumed to be less disruptive to the natural environment than a comparable project on new alignment. On the other hand, widening may be more disruptive than a new facility in terms of community impacts, depending on available right-of-way, alignment, type of development, and other factors.

Since this is a system-wide, planning-level screening, no formal field investigation was conducted, and screening could only be performed on those features for which GIS coverage was available. However, local staff reviewed and refined these GIS-based assessments, based on their familiarity with the areas and projects in question. As project plans are further refined, more precise environmental assessments may be necessary. For some of the projects in the Recommended LRTP, NEPA/SEPA studies are already underway or completed. Results are summarized in a series of evaluation matrices for the 2014, 2020, and 2030 horizon years — Tables 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3.

Each matrix rates the impacts of every project completed in that time period. Impacts in the following categories are assessed, based on mapping provided by the City of Greensboro:

Environmental

- Hydrological
 - Bodies of water
 - Floodplains/buffers
- Threatened species
- Parks/Army Corps of Engineers properties
- Hazardous materials
 - Hazardous waste sites
 - Superfund sites

Community

- Schools
- Shopping centers
- Hospitals
- Churches/cemeteries
- Historic resources
- Reinvestment areas

Potential project impacts (if any) are classified as "Minor," "Moderate," or "Major" for each of the above categories. This determination is based on a combination of objective and subjective criteria. For example, impacts are generally considered less severe if the project involves widening or other improvements along an existing roadway, as opposed to construction on new

alignment. The following guidelines were used to rate project impacts in this screening process:

Minor Impacts

- · Road widening with single small creek crossing
- · Road widening near sensitive area

Moderate Impacts

- Road widening with multiple creek crossings
- Road widening through sensitive area
- · New alignment with single small creek crossing
- · New alignment near sensitive area

Major Impacts

- New alignment along stream
- New alignment with multiple stream crossings
- New alignment through sensitive area
- Road widening or new alignment with numerous impacts

This analysis was used to eliminate any candidate projects with "fatal" flaws, or environmental impacts that were considered potentially too severe to justify the project. In addition, the information obtained from this analysis allowed proposed roadway alignments to be adjusted or refined to minimize possible environmental impacts. Finally, this screening process allows early identification of likely impacts and areas of uncertainty that will need to be investigated more fully as a particular project moves forward through more detailed planning and design.

	Table 4.1 — Roadway Projects, 2014 Horizon Year																		
		IMPACT	MATRIX	ENVIRONMENTAL							COMMUNITY						ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
ID	Facility	TIP Number	Description / Extents	Bodies of Water	Floodplains / Buffers	Threatened Species	Parks / ACOE Properties	Hazardous Waste Sites	Superfund Sites	Schools	Shopping Centers	Hospitals	Churches / Cemeteries	Historic Resources	Reinvestment Areas	Minority +	Hispanic [†]	Low Income †	
B1	New Garden Road		Jefferson Rd. to Brassfield Rd.	**			*				*			*					
B2	Friendly Avenue		Westridge Rd. to Holden Rd., add medians & left turn lanes							*			*	*					
В3	Creek Ridge Road		Randleman Rd. to US 220		*						*				**	*			
B4	Franklin Blvd/Florida St Connector		McConnell Rd. to Lee St.	*	*					*					*	Yes **		Yes **	
B5	Elm-Eugene Street		Vandalia Rd. to Southern Urban Loop (I-85 Bypass)	*	*						*		*			Yes **			
В6	US 220	R-2309	Horse Pen Creek Rd. to US 220 - NC 68 Connector	***	***	*	***			**	**		**	*					
В7	Mackay Road		High Point Rd. to Adams Farm Pkwy.								**		*						
В8	Battleground Avenue		Cotswold Ave. to Westridge Rd.	*	*		**				**		**	**					
В9	Stanley Road		Koger Blvd. to Hilltop Rd.	*	*						**		*						
B10	Church Street		Cone Blvd. to Northwood St.	**	**	*			**	**	**	**		**	**				
B11	Horse Pen Creek - Fleming Connector		Horse Pen Creek Rd. to Fleming Rd. (includes extending existing cross-sections)	*	*														
B12	Vandalia Road		Elm-Eugene St. to Pleasant Garden Rd.	*	*					**			*		*	Yes **			
B13	Summit Avenue		McKnight Mill Rd. to Brightwood School Rd.	*	*					*	**		*		*	*			
B14	Summit Avenue		Bryan Park to Eckerson Rd.	*	*										*				
B15	West Market Street	R-2611	NC 68 to Bunker Hill Rd. in Colfax	*	*			*		**			*		*				
B16	Gallimore Dairy Road	U-4015 (part)	NC 68 to I-40	*	*			*	*		*								
B17	Western Urban Loop	U-2524	I-85 to Lawndale Dr.	***	***	**	***		***	***	***			**	***				
B18	Chimney Rock Rd. Extension	U-2524 (part)	Existing facility to Old Oak Ridge Rd	**	**														
B19	NC 68 / US 220 Connector	R-2413	Pleasant Ridge Rd. to US 220 + widening into Rockingham Co.	***	***					**									
B20	Merritt Drive		I-40 to High Point Rd.						**		*				**		Yes *		
B21	Guilford College Road	U-2913 (part)	Widening (from Ruffin Rd to new alignment)								*		*						
DZ1	Guillola College Road	0-2913 (part)	New alignment (from widening to High Point Rd.)	***	***				**	**									
B22	Hilltop Road	U-3612	Guilford College Rd. to Adams Farm Pkwy.	**	**								*						
B23	High Point Road	U-2412	Hilltop Rd. to Proposed US 311 Bypass (portion in High Point)	*					*	*	**		**		**				
B24	Groometown Road	U-3313	Wiley Davis Rd. to Wayne Rd.	*							*		**	**	İ				
B25	Bridford Parkway Extension	U-4006	Wendover Ave. at Hornaday Rd. to Burnt Poplar Rd. at Swing Rd.	***	***			**	***		***								
B26	Hornaday Road / Chimney Rock Road Connector		Hornaday Rd. to Chimney Rock Rd.					**	**										
B27	Hornaday Road / Chimney Rock Road Connector	U-2524 (part)	Bridge over Outer Loop	***	***														
B28	Reedy Fork Service Rd.		Turner-Smith Rd Ext to Reedy Fork Parkway	***	***														
B29	Reedy Fork Parkway		Turner-Smith Rd Ext to Eckerson Rd.	***	***														

	Table 4.1 — Roadway Projects, 2014 Horizon Year (continued)																		
		IMPACT	MATRIX	ENVIRONMENTAL							COMMUNITY						ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
ID	Facility	TIP Number	Description / Extents	Bodies of Water	Floodplains / Buffers	Threatened Species	Parks / ACOE Properties	Hazardous Waste Sites	Superfund Sites	Schools	Shopping Centers	Hospitals	Churches / Cemeteries	Historic Resources	Reinvestment Areas	Minority +	Hispanic [†]	Low Income +	
B30	Turner Smith Road extension		Connect Brown Summit Rd. to Turner Smith Rd.	***	***														
B31	Lake Jeanette Road		Lawndale Ave. to N Elm St. / Bass Chapel Rd.																
B32	East Market Street		Streetscape and Traffic Management						*	**	**			*	***	Yes **		Yes **	
B33	Lake Brandt / Cotswold Connector	U-2524 (part)	Lake Brandt Rd. to Cotswold Rd.																
B35	US 421	R-2612	Williams Dairy / Neelley & Woody Mill / Company Mill interchanges	**	**														
B36	US 29	R-4707	Eckerson Rd. / US 29 Interchange + 1 mile of freeway upgrade	*	*				*	*									
B37	Greensboro Signal / ITS System	U-4711																	
B39	East Cone Boulevard Extension		Nealtown Rd. to Hines Chapel Rd.	***	***				**				*		***	Yes ***			
B40	Bryan Boulevard	U-2815 C	Inman Rd. to NC 68 (relocate roadway)	***	***														
B41	Holts Chapel Road Upgrade		Alignment & cross-section improvements, E. Market St. to Ward Rd.	**				**			*				**	Yes **		Yes **	
B42	Pegg / Thatcher Connector		Gallimore Dairy Rd. to W. Market St.	*	*										***				
B43	Bryan Boulevard Extension		NC 68 to Pleasant Ridge Rd.	*															
B44	Sandy Ridge Road		I-40 to W. Market St.											*	*				
B45	Alamance Church Road		US 421 to Southeast School Rd.	**	**				**	**	**		**	*	*	Yes **			
B46	Gallimore Dairy Road	U-4015 (part)	I-40 to W. Market St.	*	*				***						*				
B47	Hilltop Road		Widen from Adams Farm Pkwy. to Stanley Rd.	**	**								*						
B49	Norwalk St. Connector		Boston Rd. over railroad to existing		*										*				
B50	Brigham Rd. Widening		W. Market St. to Pleasant Ridge Rd.	*	*														
B51	Regional Rd. Extension		Gallimore Dairy Rd. to north of Hickory Ridge Rd. (part existing)		*										*				

- (1) Qualitative screening only. Observations were made by overlaying potential alignments on map with environmental and community resource information.
 (2) Impacts considered less severe if following an existing alignment rather than on new alignment.

- Environmental Justice Notes:

 (1) Not intended to determine impacts, only to identify those communities in proximity to various projects in the long range plan. A much more detailed analysis, including a field survey, will need to be undertaken to determine specific community impacts on a project-by-project basis when individual project studies are begun.
- "YES" if census data indicate that 51% or more of the population is of the selected demographic. If "YES" these communities will need to be included in an environmental justice assessment when individual project studies are undertaken.

	*	Minor	Widening; single small creek crossing; near sensitive area.
KEY	**	Moderate	Widening: multiple small creek crossing; cross or near edge of sensitive area. New Location: single small creek crossing or near sensitive area.
	***	Major	New alignment: along stream; multiple impacts; through middle of sensitive area.

			Table 4.2 — Roadway Projects	, 202	20 H	oriz	on Ye	ar											
		IMPACT MA	ATRIX	ENVIRONMENTAL							COMMUNITY						ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
ID	Facility	TIP Number	Description / Extents	Bodies of Water	Floodplains / Buffers	Threatened Species	Parks / ACOE Properties	Hazardous Waste Sites	Superfund Sites	Schools	Shopping Centers	Hospitals	Churches / Cemeteries	Historic Resources	Reinvestment Areas	Minority +	Hispanic +	Low Income [‡]	
C1	US 158	R-2577	Forsyth Co Line - US-220 (includes Stokesdale Bypass) (remainder of the project lies in Forsyth Co.)	**	**										*				
C2	US 70	R-2910	Rock Creek Dairy Rd. to Alamance County Line (.3 to MAB) (remainder of the project lies in Alamance Co.)	*	*									**					
C3	US 70	U-2581	Mt Hope Church Rd. to Rock Creek Dairy Rd.	**	**		*		**	*			**	*	*	Yes***			
C4	Fleming Road / Lewiston Road		Fleming Rd. to Lewiston Rd. connection and interchange at Urban Loop	*	*														
C5	Horsepen Creek Road		New Garden Rd. to Battleground Ave.	*	*					**	**								
C6	Summit Avenue		Brightwood School Rd. to Bryan Park	*															
C7	Eastern Urban Loop	U-2525	Lawndale Dr. to US 70 - New Location	***	***	***	*			*	*		*		***	Yes **			
C8	E. Cone Blvd. / Urban Loop Interchange		Interchange with East Cone Blvd. and Urban Loop																
С9	I-40 / NC 68 / I-73 Connector		Old Oakridge Rd. to I-40,	***	***					**	*								
C10	NC 150 Realignment		New location, from Brookbank Road to US 220 (see C20 for remainder)	***	**									*					
C11	Hicone Road Extension		Lee's Chapel Rd. to Summit Ave.	***	***														
C12	Carmon / McLeansville Road Connector		Knox Rd. to McLeansville Rd.	**	**														
C13	Gallimore Dairy Road / Friendly Avenue		Realign for continuity	*	*				***						***				
C14	Ritters Lake Road Realignment		Connect with Wolftrail at Ranldleman Rd.																
C15	Sandy Ridge Road Extension		Market St. to I-40 / NC 68 / I-73 Connector and Interchange at Market St.	**	**								*						
C17	Lewiston / Pleasant Ridge Roads		Urban Loop to Realigned NC 150	***	***	*													
C18	Vandalia Road Extension		Pleasant Garden Rd. to Alamance Church Rd. + US 421 interchange	***	***											Yes ***			
C19	South Holden Road		South of Bus. I-85 to Kivett Dr. (part on new location)	**	**					*									
C20	NC 150 Realignment / Widening		On existing Brookbank Road and existing Auburn Road from NC 68 Lake Brandt Road (see C10 for remainder)	**	**					**	**		**	***					
C21	Pleasant Ridge Road		W. Market St. to Lewiston Rd.							**			**	*					

- (1) Qualitative screening only. Observations were made by overlaying potential alignments on map with environmental and community resource information.
 (2) Impacts considered less severe if following an existing alignment rather than on new alignment.

Environmental Justice Notes:

- (1) Not intended to determine impacts, only to identify those communities in proximity to various project basis when individual
- *YES" if census data indicate that 51% or more of the population is of the selected demographic. If "YES" these communities will need to be included in an environmental justice assessment when individual project studies are undertaken.

	*	Minor	Widening; single small creek crossing; near sensitive area.
KEY	**	Moderate	Widening: multiple small creek crossing; cross or near edge of sensitive area. New Location: single small creek crossing or near sensitive area.
	***	Major	New alignment: along stream; multiple impacts; through middle of sensitive area.

			Table 4.3 — Roadway Project	s, 20	30 ⊢	loriz	zon `	Year	•									
		IMPACT	MATRIX	ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY									ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE					
ID	Facility	TIP Number	Description / Extents	Bodies of Water	Floodplains / Buffers	Threatened Species	Parks / ACOE Properties	Hazardous Waste Sites	Superfund Sites	Schools	Shopping Centers	Hospitals	Churches / Cemeteries	Historic Resources	Reinvestment Areas	Minority [†]	Hispanic ⁺	Low Income +
D1	US 158	R-2580	US 220 - Rockingham Co. Line (remaining portion is in Rockingham Co.)	*	*													
D2	US 29		New single point interchange at Brown Summit/Turner Smith Connector).															
D3	Penry / Ward / Youngs Mill Connector		McConnell Rd. to Huffine Mill Rd. (realign & improve existing)	***	***				**	*					*	Yes ***		
D4	Franklin Road		Railroad grade separation													Yes ***		
D5	Ward Road		Railroad grade separation						**									
D6	Mackay Road		Railroad grade separation															
D7	Hilltop Road		Railroad grade separation						**									
D8	Aycock Street		Railroad underpass replacement (in conjunction with PART)							*								
D9	East Market Street		Railroad underpass replacement (in conjunction with PART)											*		Yes ***		
D10	Rankin Mill / Flemingfield Connector		South of Keeley Rd. Huffine Mill Rd.	*												Yes **		
D11	High Rock Road Extension		US 70 to Frieden Church Rd. (connect existing facilities)						*	*	**					Yes*		
D12	Wades Store Road Extension		Mt. Hope Church Rd. to Alamance Church Rd.	***	***													
D14	Burnetts Chapel / Steeple Chase / Hagen Stone Park / Company Mill Connectors		Burnetts Chapel Rd. to Company Mill Rd., new & existing	***	***		*											
D15	Airport Connector		Sandy Ridge Rd Ext (at I-73 Connector) to Forsyth Co. (continues to Winston-Salem Urban Loop / I-74)	***	***				**									
D17	Youngs Mill / Southeast School Connector		Millpoint Rd. to Southeast School Rd.	**	**													
D18	US 29		Widen & upgrade to interstate, north of Urban Loop to Rockingham Co. line	**	**													
D19	South Dudley Street		Railroad grade separation							*			*		*	Yes ***		
D20	South English Street		Railroad grade separation							*	*				*	Yes ***		
D21	Colony Road		Railroad grade separation															
D22	Tate Street		Railroad grade separation							*				*				
D23	Benbow Road		Railroad grade separation						*	*						Yes ***		
D24	Nealtown Rd. / McKnight Mill Rd. Connector and Extension		Huffine Mill Rd. to Eckerson Rd. (connect & improve existing facilities)	***	***				***	***					***	Yes ***		
D25	Knox Road Extension		Carmon to Frieden Church Rd., with railroad grade separation															
D27	Williams Dairy / Millpoint Road Connector		Millpoint Rd. to Williams Dairy Rd.	*	*													
D28	Bishops Road - Ritters Lake Road Connector		S. Holden Road to Wolftrail Road (Old Randleman Rd.)	***	***													

	Roadway Projects, 2030 Horizon Year (continued)																	
	IMPACT MATRIX						ENVIRONMENTAL						COMMUNITY					
ID	Facility	TIP Number	Description / Extents	Bodies of Water	Floodplains / Buffers	Threatened Species	s / ACOE Propertion	Superfund Site	Schools	Shopping Centers	Hospitals	Churches / Cemeteries	Historic Resources	Reinvestment Areas	Minority +	Hispanic +	Low Income +	
D29	Florida St. Extension		Franklin Blvd. Extension to Mt. Hope Church Rd (new & improve existing)	***	***							**		***	Yes **		Yes **	
D30	Hicone Rd. Widening		US 29 to Hines Chapel Rd.											İ				

- (1) Qualitative screening only. Observations were made by overlaying potential alignments on map with environmental and community resource information.
 (2) Impacts considered less severe if following an existing alignment rather than on new alignment.

- Environmental Justice Notes:

 (1) Not intended to determine impacts, only to identify those communities in proximity to various projects in the long range plan. A much more detailed analysis, including a field survey, will need to be undertaken to determine specific community impacts on a project-by-project basis when individual project studies are begun.
- "YES" if census data indicate that 51% or more of the population is of the selected demographic. If "YES" these communities will need to be included in an environmental justice assessment when individual project studies are undertaken.

	*	Minor	Widening; single small creek crossing; near sensitive area.
KEY	**	Moderate	Widening: multiple small creek crossing; cross or near edge of sensitive area. New Location: single small creek crossing or near sensitive area.
	***	Major	New alignment: along stream; multiple impacts; through middle of sensitive area.

Environmental Justice

Environmental Justice is a concept intended to avoid the use of federal funds for projects, programs, or other activities that generate disproportionate or discriminatory adverse impacts on minority or low-income populations. This effort is consistent with Title IV of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, and is promoted by the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) as an integral part of the long-range transportation planning process, as well as individual project planning and design. The environmental justice assessment incorporated in this LRTP update was based on three basic principles, derived from guidance issued by the USDOT:

- The planning process should minimize, mitigate, or avoid environmental impacts (including economic, social, and human health impacts) that affect minority and low-income populations with disproportionate severity.
- The benefits intended to result from the transportation planning process should not be delayed, reduced, or denied to minority and low-income populations.
- Any community potentially affected by outcomes of the transportation planning process should be provided with the opportunity for complete and equitable participation in decision-making.

As part of this LRTP update, the Greensboro MPO identified the geographic distribution of low-income and minority populations, so that the positive and negative effects of various transportation investments in the transportation plan could be assessed. This assessment effort is the focus of this discussion. The MPO also endeavored to develop and carry out a public involvement process that not only reduced obstacles to participation by minority and low-income communities, but also actively sought out meaningful input. This effort is detailed in Chapter 1 of this report.

It must be stressed that the environmental justice screening conducted for this study is not intended to quantify specific impacts. As described above, it is intended to guide the development of a plan that is equitable in terms of both costs and benefits. In addition, a critical purpose of this screening is the identification of projects in the transportation plan that, due to proximity, have the potential to affect communities of special interest. When individual studies are begun as part of project implementation, more detailed analyses, including field surveys, will be needed to identify and minimize specific community impacts on a project-by-project basis.

Methodology and Findings

For the purposes of this study, the following methodology was used to identify communities subject to environmental justice screening. Census information from the year 2000 was analyzed at the block group level. The distributions of populations of interest (African-American, Hispanic, and low income) within each block group were calculated. If individuals from any one of these three categories comprised more than 50% of the population in a particular block group, that block group was flagged for analysis for that population category. Using these definitions, there were no "Hispanic" block groups in the study area, and except for a small area in the northern CBD, the "low income" block groups were a subset of the "African-American" block groups.

Thematic maps were then prepared, graphically depicting concentrations of minority, Hispanic, and low-income populations by block group. Block groups were shaded to represent concentrations of populations of interest, by quartile. When overlaid with proposed roadway projects, these maps provided a useful tool for analyzing and communicating impacts. These maps are included as **Maps 4.3**, **4.4**, **and 4.5**.

If a roadway project was proposed in or near one of the identified block groups, a qualitative assessment was made of the project's potential impacts on the communities of interest. Those results are broadly summarized in **Tables 4.1**, **4.2**, **and 4.3**, and are described below in more detail, on a project-by-project basis. Since projects are grouped by horizon year it is also possible to review the relative timeliness of project implementation in minority and low-income communities.

Roadway Projects — 2014 Horizon Year

Franklin Boulevard/Florida Street Connector (B4)

- Connection on new location: McConnell Road to Lee Street.
- The end of the new location portion of the project affects minority and low-income communities in the College Forest and Franklin Boulevard/Shirley Lane neighborhood areas.
- This project should improve access to the community, provide alternative travel routes, and increase investment opportunities, but could have negative impacts on specific properties.



